

AT THE RICHMOND THEATRES THIS WEEK

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

Monday night—"The Rivals."
Wednesday night—Niblo's Travel Talks.
Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, with Saturday matinee—"Polly of the Circus."
BIJOU THEATRE.
"The Gambler of the West" all the week.
LUBIN THEATRE.
Continuous Vaudeville.

"The Rivals."
A woman of taste and refinement after witnessing a performance of "The Rivals" as presented by Joseph and William W. Jefferson was overheard to say: "This has been a profitable evening," and then she asked half resentfully, "Why don't we have more of them?"

Her remark, it is believed, voiced the sentiments of nearly every person in the large audience that had just witnessed Richard Brinsley Sheridan's comedy with every evidence of delighted enjoyment. The language of the play may seem antiquated in expression and certain of the characters may impress one as old-fashioned, but the wit, because it is genuine, is keen, and the humor of the situations, by reason of the skilful ease with which they are created, has lost none of its power to amuse and gladden.

Not only the eye is gratified by witnessing one of those old-fashioned comedies—but the mind, too, is roused and entertained, and the auditor departs feeling that he has been not only diverted and amused, but refreshed and invigorated.

Managers, players and public are each in part to blame for the infrequency of such evenings of profit, but it is doubtful if the chief portion of such blame can with justice be laid to the door of the public.

"The Rivals" will be presented by Joseph and William Jefferson at the Academy to-morrow night.

East of the Travel Talks.

Fred Niblo, the American humorist-traveler, who has made a distinct success of his illustrated "Travel Talks" by keeping out of the beaten path of other lecturers, will return to the Academy of Music on Wednesday



MISS ELEANOR JENNINGS,
With "The Gambler of the West."



JOSEPH AND WILLIAM W. JEFFERSON,
in "The Rivals" at the Academy Monday.



Scene from "Polly of the Circus," with Edith Taliaferro, at the Academy Thursday, Friday and Saturday and Saturday matinee.

night. The illustrated pilgrimage will be what Mr. Niblo considers one of the best subjects in the series, a zigzag journey through Russia from the Black Sea to Siberia. This offering, which will include many pictures taken last summer by Mr. Niblo at great expense and constant risk of personal safety, will portray scenes, character studies and panoramic views from one end of Russia to the other. With many a quaint story, Mr. Niblo will conduct his audiences through Moscow, the Holy City, and going within the sacred walls of the Kremlin, by means of motion pictures, he will show some very rare religious ceremonies. All phases and forms of Russian life, from the peasant to the nobleman, will be graphically illustrated and entertainingly "talked" on by Mr. Niblo.

"Polly of the Circus."

The circus is a familiar and standard institution of American life. In the country district its coming is eagerly looked forward to as the one crowning event of the summer, and its tented field is the Mecca to which pilgrims fare from near and far. And yet the inner life of the circus is as little known to those who bask in its unadorned glitter and its tawdry pomp as the inner life of the ancient Egyptians might be.

Margaret Mayo's tender little play, "Polly of the Circus," permits a glimpse into the penetralia of the circus. It is true that the glimpse is through a window, whose panes are rose-tinted with romance, but the atmosphere of the sawdust ring and the dressing tent are so well produced by her clever coadjutor, Frederic Thompson, wizard of stage craft and



EDITH TALIAFERRO,
in "Polly of the Circus," at the Academy.

effects, that the romance and the sentiment seem real and grateful.

The contrast between the life of the circus, where Polly has grown to girlhood unspoiled in character, but totally undeveloped, save in her profession, and the quiet, cultured life of the young minister's household, serves to accentuate the effect. The playwright, too, has known how to make use of the narrow Puritanism of the villagers and their bitter prejudice, the more stubborn because of the ignorance from which it springs, as an effective background to a story.

How the love of Polly and the parson grew, how it led each other into the paths of betterment, how the account voice of scandal came to interrupt it and separate the twain, how Polly went back to the circus with sacrificial intent, and how the parson found her there and declared his love; these are items in a pretty conventional story. The reunion of the paths in the full glare of the circus ring is sufficiently dramatic to satiate the theatregoers' desire for thrills, and sufficiently poetic to please those who believe true love should ever be triumphant and happy when the final curtain falls.

Not a little interest centres in the final emergence from her childish chrysalis of Edith Taliaferro, and her treatment of a role which while calling for youth, still makes no small emotional demand. It is known that Miss Taliaferro has youth and the traditions of a stage-bred family behind her. This play will be seen at the Academy of Music April 1, 2, 3, and matinee Saturday.

A Wild West Play.

To select a good play for production requires as great talent as to write one, and possession of the peculiar gift to do this is undoubtedly the reason for A. H. Woods' wonderful success as a producer of melodramas. It is to know what the people want and give it to them that brings success to the founder of the stage. Mr. Woods has demonstrated his possession of this perspicacity. His latest production, "The Gambler of the West," shows his foresight as to the desires of his patrons. Just at present there is a great revival of interest in the once wild West.

Since the days of Warlock and

trained horses, at least fifteen years ago, the gallery boys have not yelled so lustily with approval of any play as they are now yelling at the thrilling scenes and climaxes in "The Gambler of the West." And the less boisterous, but as greatly interested occupants of the lower seats are just as highly delighted. The play is a wonder of scenic novelty, there being a great prairie fire scene, accomplished by electrical effects, and scenes of Rocky Mountain grandeur.

The story of the play is the reunion of a young girl and her baby brother, who was stolen from her parents by the Indians, and her incidental meeting with a true-hearted young gambler of the West, who protects her and helps her through many thrilling and narrow escapes from the villains, including attempted burning at the stake, and throwing bowie knives at her while bound to a tree. A daily parade, headed by the famous cowboy band, is given.

"The Gambler of the West" will be the attraction at the Bijou Theatre throughout the week, with the usual matinees.

"The Soubrette and the Kid."

The Lubin for this week will offer a bill that promises something different and something better than seen heretofore. Among the vaudeville numbers will be Nelson and Kitty Sterling, "The Soubrette and the Kid." Master Nelson Sterling is reputed to be one of the most accomplished juvenile performers in vaudeville. Their number is said to be very funny. Master Sterling taking the part of an Irish character that gives him an ex-

performances will be given all week from 2 to 11 o'clock.

Mr. Cosby on the Wednesday Club.

"It has always been the desire of the Wednesday Club to bring its concerts to the masses. You know full well that the people who have the money can take a little trip up to New York or Boston and hear the great artists, or a great orchestral concert, or opera, if you will; but we of the ordinary, workaday type, who have to get one hundred cents' worth out of every dollar we spend, can't afford to take these expensive trips.

"We expect to make these concerts the most popular, both as regards the price of admission and the programs, that we have ever given. It isn't the intellectual music that we shall cradle down the musical throats of our patrons, whether they wish it or not, but it is enjoyable music that we are planning for this festival—music that you and I, and every other person that loves the sweet, tender and delightful strains that soothe the weary and comfort the distressed, that we are placing on our programs.

"The exquisitely melodious strains of the 'Swan and the Skylark,' the tender and devotional melody of the 'Sanctus,' the wonderfully expressive themes of 'Hear My Prayer,' are all in that class of music for which we eagerly seek. What is more lovely than 'O for the Wings of a Dove?' Mendelssohn has here given us one of the most beautiful melodies; you may recall that it is first sung by the soprano soloist, and then the same melody is 'accompanied' by the chorus while the soloist sings the theme, producing an almost indescribable effect of the 'singing to be at rest' expressed in the text. Words alone could never produce the effect which the addition of music accomplishes. This is music which everybody can enjoy and appreciate. And it is all the way through our programs. A large portion of our people have not attended the concerts of the Wednesday Club for fear of not being able



FRED NIBLO,
at the Academy Wednesday.

to understand the music. That is all changed at this festival. No one need remain away on that account. "We believe that if the masses will attend the festival, they will be agreeably surprised to find such music in our programs as they can really en-



ELBERTA ROY,
With "The Gambler of the West."

ceptional opportunity to demonstrate his ability as a comedian.

Glissando, a musical comedian, who has been a feature of many vaudeville bills, is another of the acts. Ed and May Woodward will be seen in their original comedy creation that has been constructed for laughing purposes only. Barrow and Milo, a pair of accomplished young athletes, will be seen in their marvelous exhibition of feats of strength.

The Lubin pictures will, as usual, possess decided novelty. Continuous

joy without the prerequisite of special musical training. It is to such that we desire to present the music of this festival, and we trust that we shall have the huge building crowded to overflowing, which, no doubt, it will be, if we may judge from present indications.

NEW USE FOR DOGS.

Setters Are Now Trained to Gather Up Lost Golf Balls.

PENNSBURG, N. C., March 27.—Baiting that a bird dog should be generally used

ACADEMY THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SAT.
APRIL 1, 2, AND 3,
MATINEE SATURDAY.

THE EVENT OF THE SEASON

FREDERIC THOMPSON PRESENTS HIS MASSIVE PRODUCTION,

POLLY OF THE CIRCUS

WITH
EDITH TALIAFERRO

AS PLAYED ONE SOLID YEAR AT THE
LIBERTY THEATRE, NEW YORK CITY.

"THERE'S A GOOD LESSON OF LENT IN THE STORY WHICH
POLLY'S TROUBLES UNFOLD."

PRICES: MATINEE, 25c to \$1.00; NIGHT, 50c to \$1.50.

ACADEMY, MONDAY, M'CH 29

JOSEPH AND WILLIAM W.

...JEFFERSON...

AND AN EXCEPTIONALLY EFFICIENT COMPANY IN RICHARD
BRIMSLEY SHERIDAN'S FAMOUS COMEDY,

"THE RIVALS"

PRICES, 25c TO \$1.50.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC WEDNESDAY
NIGHT, MARCH 31

MR. FRED NIBLO

THE FAMOUS HUMORIST-TRAVELER.
OFFERS AS THE THIRD OF HIS SERIES OF ZIGZAG JOURNEYS
AROUND THE WORLD.

RUSSIA—FROM THE BLACK SEA TO SIBERIA
BEAUTIFULLY ILLUSTRATED COLORED VIEWS AND MOTION
PICTURES.

BIJOU--ALL THE WEEK
MATS. TUES, THURS, SAT.

A. H. WOODS
OFFERS THE GREATEST OF ALL WESTERN DRAMAS.

THE GAMBLER
OF THE WEST

IN FOUR ACTS AND EIGHT SCENES,
BY OWEN DAVIS.

REAL COWBOYS
INDIANS
HORSES

OLD-TIME STAGE COACH

WILD WEST STREET PARADE GIVEN EACH DAY.

AMONG THE MANY EXCELLENT FEATURES AT THE
LUBIN THEATRE

FOR NEXT WEEK WILL BE SEEN

KITTY AND NELSON STERLING,

"THE SOUBRETTE AND THE KID."

ED. AND MAY WOODWARD, COMEDY ARTISTS,
AND MANY OTHER SUPERIOR VAUDEVILLE AND PICTURE
NUMBERS.

Continuous performances daily from 2 to 11 P. M. No intermission.
Admission, 10c; ladies and children at matinees, 5c.

THE WEDNESDAY
CLUB

16th Annual Music Festival,
CITY AUDITORIUM,
APRIL 14TH & 15TH

The subscribers' list will close in a few days, and persons desiring to enroll their names should do so at once. The fee is \$10, and entitles each subscriber to TWO tickets to each of the three concerts, and to preference in reserving seats. Names may be enrolled and information obtained at The Wednesday Club office, 318 East Broad Street. Phone 2734.

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KITTY AND NELSON STERLING,
"The Soubrette and the Kid," at the
Lubin.

FOR
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I SOLICIT YOUR VOTE AND INFLUENCE
JOHN L. SATTERFIELD